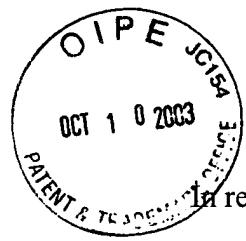


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:)
Tadayoshi NISHIHAMA, et al.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/617,669) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: July 14, 2003) :
For: CHARGING APPARATUS HAVING) October 10, 2003
AUXILIARY CHARGER RUBBING :
AGAINST IMAGE BEARING)
MEMBER :
:

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified application, as follows.